

# BLM WH&B NEWS



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Two-Days of Free Workshops Learn How to Gentle a Wild Horse**

**(Pauls Valley, Okla. – Oct. 14-15).** Now that you’ve adopted a wild horse, how do you go about building a relationship with this living legend? To find out, attend one of the workshops offered by the Bureau of Land Management as a spectator or hands-on participant. Workshops will be held at the Pauls Valley Adoption Center Oct. 14 and 15.

Sign ups are taking place on line now. Don’t miss this opportunity to work one-on-one with wild horse trainer Steve Mantle and learn gentling techniques that will help both the novice and the skilled horseman.

“All it takes is a little patience, a bit of work and a lot of respect,” says Mantle, who has more than 26 years of experience working with wild horses.

The workshops are open to spectators too. Enjoy a drive-up interpretative site, which offers a spectacular viewing opportunity of wild horses and burros in a natural setting and provides a short history on how the adoption program was developed. Make a day of it and don’t worry about bringing lunch, Bob’s Pig Shop will have plenty of good food on hand.

Mantle will be available for questions from spectators in between and following workshops until 6 p.m. both days. Initial sessions with Mantle are 45 min. long. If a horse is gentled, workshop participants can continue to work independently in a designated area following the gentling workshop to try out new techniques. Limited space for hands-on training is available and is on a first come, first serve basis.

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All spectators and participants are also welcome to attend the Wild Horse and Burro competitive bid adoption taking place at 10 a.m. on Tuesday. Walk-up adoptions begin immediately following the competitive bid and will continue until closing on Wednesday.

To qualify, bidders must be at least 18 years of age, with no record of animal abuse. In addition, adopters must have specific facilities and can adopt no more than four animals per year. Registration to adopt begins at 8 a.m. both days. The facility closes at 6 p.m.

Regular adoptions are held at the Pauls Valley Facility the second Tuesday of each month. To obtain an application, or for more information on the adoption requirements or the workshops at Pauls Valley, visit the BLM's web site at: [www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov](http://www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov) or call toll-free at 1-866-4-Mustangs.

**Directions from Oklahoma City:** Take I-35 south. The facility is visible from I-35 at Pauls Valley. To reach the facility, take Exit 74 (Kimberlin Road), go west ¼ of a mile and then north ¼ of a mile.

This event also sponsored by Jackson Animal Clinic, Kelly Donham's Alfalfa, Rick Campbell's Alfalfa, ECI - Edwards Canvasses Inc., Bob's Pig Shop, Tios Restaurant, Ace Hardware, Punkins Restaurant, Dutton Farm and Ranch Supply, Dutton Rent All, Jamie's Welding and Trailer, Pauls Valley National Bank, and Phil Jennings.

*The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for managing the nation's public lands. With the passage of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, the Bureau gained the responsibility to care for wild horses and burros on these lands in harmony with other natural resources. When an over-population of wild horses and burros exists on these public lands, some animals are removed and offered to the general public for adoption.*

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